

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-THIRD SESSION**

S.F. No. 4790

(SENATE AUTHORS: NELSON, Limmer and Duckworth)

DATE
03/11/2024

D-PG
12129 Introduction and first reading
Referred to Education Policy

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to education; modifying cannabis and substance use education
1.3 requirements; amending Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 120B.215,
1.4 subdivisions 1, 2, by adding a subdivision.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 120B.215, subdivision 1, is
1.7 amended to read:

1.8 Subdivision 1. **Model program.** The commissioner of education, in consultation with
1.9 the commissioners of health and human services, local district and school health education
1.10 specialists, and other qualified experts, shall identify one or more model programs that may
1.11 be used to educate middle school and high school students on the health effects on children
1.12 and adolescents of cannabis use and substance use, including but not limited to the use of
1.13 fentanyl or mixtures containing fentanyl, consistent with local standards as required in
1.14 section 120B.021, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (6), for elementary and secondary
1.15 school students. The commissioner must publish a list of model programs that include
1.16 written materials, resources, and training for instructors by ~~June~~ January 1, 2025. A model
1.17 program identified by the commissioner must be medically accurate, age and developmentally
1.18 appropriate, culturally inclusive, and grounded in science, and must address:

1.19 (1) the physical and mental health effects of cannabis use and substance use by children,
1.20 adolescents, and persons under 25 years of age, including effects on the developing brains
1.21 of children, adolescents, and persons under 25 years of age;

1.22 (2) unsafe or unhealthy behaviors associated with cannabis use and substance use;

1.23 (3) signs of substance use disorders;

2.1 (4) treatment options; and

2.2 (5) healthy coping strategies for children and adolescents.

2.3 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 120B.215, subdivision 2, is amended
2.4 to read:

2.5 Subd. 2. **School programs.** (a) Starting in the ~~2026-2027~~ 2025-2026 school year, a
2.6 school district or charter school must implement a comprehensive education program on
2.7 cannabis use and substance use, including but not limited to the use of fentanyl or mixtures
2.8 containing fentanyl, for students in middle school and high school. The program must
2.9 include instruction on the topics listed in subdivision 1 and must:

2.10 (1) respect community values and encourage students to communicate with parents,
2.11 guardians, and other trusted adults about cannabis use and substance use, including but not
2.12 limited to the use of fentanyl or mixtures containing fentanyl; and

2.13 (2) refer students to local resources where students may obtain medically accurate
2.14 information about cannabis use and substance use, including but not limited to the use of
2.15 fentanyl or mixtures containing fentanyl, and treatment for a substance use disorder.

2.16 (b) District efforts to develop, implement, or improve instruction or curriculum as a
2.17 result of the provisions of this section must be consistent with sections 120B.10 and 120B.11.

2.18 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 120B.215, is amended by adding a
2.19 subdivision to read:

2.20 Subd. 2a. **School program discretion.** A school district or charter school may adopt
2.21 programs to discourage and prevent underage substance abuse.